

To: Edlund, Carl[edlund.carl@epa.gov]; Phillips, Pam[phillips.pam@epa.gov]; Crossland, Ronnie[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov]; Wall, Tom[Wall.Tom@epa.gov]; Garcia, Bert[Garcia.Bert@epa.gov]; Hestmark, Martin[Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov]; Tulis, Dana[Tulis.Dana@epa.gov]
Cc: Garcia, David[Garcia.David@epa.gov]
From: Honker, William
Sent: Mon 9/21/2015 4:28:42 PM
Subject: FW: Two Monitoring Plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident
Post-GKM draft conceptual monitoring plan Clean 2015_09_16.mp.docx

.....
>>>>>>
FYI

Bill

William K. Honker, P.E.

Director, Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ)

EPA Region 6

Dallas, TX

214-665-3187

<http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/index.htm>



From: Flynn, Ryan, NMENV [mailto:Ryan.Flynn@state.nm.us]
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2015 10:35 AM
To: Honker, William; Curry, Ron; Coleman, Sam
Cc: bhopkins@nmsu.edu; agalloway@aztecnm.gov; agarcia@aztecnm.gov; robert.fredriksen@ch2m.com; **Personal Email/Ex. 6**; willis.manwill@cairncommunities.com; **Personal Email/Ex. 6**; lloyd@northstarwater.org; rick@floravistawater.com; **Personal Email/Ex. 6**; laplatawater@msn.com; Blaine, Tom, OSE; Ward, Retta, DOH; Sandoval, Alexandra J., DGF; Witte, Jeff; Tongate, Butch, NMENV; Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV; McQuillan, Dennis, NMENV
Subject: FW: Two Monitoring Plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident

Bill, Ron and Sam:

The State of New Mexico does not believe it is appropriate for EPA to lead monitoring effort regarding the impacts of the Gold King Mine Release. As the responsible party, there is a clear conflict of interest. The State of New Mexico would never allow a party responsible for creating an environmental disaster to monitor itself. As we have indicated to EPA numerous times over

the past few weeks, we believe the most productive path forward is for EPA to fund the long term monitoring plan the State is currently developing with local government agencies, public universities and non-governmental organizations. We believe a locally-driven monitoring plan is the best path forward and will be happy to discuss this with you in more detail at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Ryan Flynn

Secretary of Environment

From: Tongate, Butch, NMENV
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 5:39 PM
To: Flynn, Ryan, NMENV
Subject: FW: Two Monitoring Plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident

Fyi – Staff will be reviewing the plan so we can incorporate portions of it into ours if we want to. EPA wants to have a teleconference with all the affected entities next Tuesday to discuss it.

From: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 4:33 PM
To: Stringer, Stephanie, NMENV; McQuillan, Dennis, NMENV; Hunter, Michelle, NMENV; Yurdin, Bruce, NMENV; Hogan, James, NMENV; Tongate, Butch, NMENV
Subject: FW: Two Monitoring Plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident

From: Honker, William [<mailto:honker.william@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 4:32 PM
To: Tongate, Butch, NMENV; Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV; Toth, Barbara, DOH; Coker, Eric, DOH; Blaine, Tom, OSE; Sloane, Michael B., DGF; Frey, Eric, DGF; Watson, Blaine, OSE; bhopkins@nmsu.edu; agalloway@aztecnm.gov; agarcia@aztecnm.gov; robert.fredriksen@ch2m.com; **Personal Email/Ex. 6** willis.manwill@cairncommunities.com; **Personal Email/Ex. 6** lloyd@northstarwater.org; rick@floravistawater.com; **Personal Email/Ex. 6** laplatawater@msn.com
Cc: Gray, David; Edlund, Carl; Garcia, David; Crossland, Ronnie; Foster, Althea; Wall, Tom; Garcia, Bert; Montgomery, Michael; Gullatt, Kristin
Subject: RE: Two Monitoring Plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident

Here's a Word version of the draft Conceptual Monitoring Plan, which may aid your review and comment.

Bill

William K. Honker, P.E.

Director, Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ)

EPA Region 6

Dallas, TX

214-665-3187

<http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/index.htm>



From: Honker, William

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 3:30 PM

To: 'butch.tongate@state.nm.us'; 'Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV'; 'Barbara.Toth@state.nm.us'; 'Coker, Eric, DOH'; 'Tom.blaine@state.nm.us'; 'Michael.sloane@state.nm.us'; 'eric.frey@state.nm.us'; 'blaine.watson@state.nm.us'; 'bhopkins@nmsu.edu'; 'agalloway@aztecm.gov'; 'agarcia@aztecm.gov'; 'robert.fredrickson@ch2m.com'; **Personal Email/Ex. 6** 'willis.manwill@cairncommunitie.com'; **Personal Email/Ex. 6** 'lloyd@nothstarwater.org'; 'rick@floravistawater.com'; **Personal Email/Ex. 6** 'aplatawater@msn.com'

Cc: Gray, David; Edlund, Carl; Garcia, David; Crossland, Ronnie; Foster, Althea; Wall, Tom; Garcia, Bert; Montgomery, Michael; Gullatt, Kristin; Loop, Travis (Loop.Travis@epa.gov)

Subject: Two Monitoring Plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident

Hi all,

I am writing to let you know that today the EPA is releasing two monitoring plans in follow-up to the Gold King Mine Release Incident.

Recognizing that water and sediment are now being maintained at pre-existing conditions, the agency will be scaling down the Incident Command Post in Durango, CO, and transitioning to a long-term operational plan that can be supported by the agency's Regional Offices.

The *Interim Final Incident Command Transition Plan* describes the reduction in frequency for surface water and sediment sampling and the organizational transition from incident management to project management while a longer-term watershed monitoring plan is being implemented. This plan is provided for your information.

The second plan titled *Post-Gold King Release Incident: Conceptual Monitoring Plan for Surface Water, Sediments, and Biology* describes the longer-term post-release surface water quality, sediment quality, and biological monitoring that will occur over the course of the year following the August 5, 2015 Gold King Mine (GKM) Release Incident. While the latest monitoring information shows contaminant levels have returned to pre-spill levels, the study's monitoring information will serve to inform if these findings remain consistent across annual flow conditions. EPA anticipates beginning implementation of the longer-term monitoring activities in October 2015.

Attached with this email are both the *Post-Gold King Release Incident: Conceptual Monitoring Plan for Surface Water, Sediments, and Biology* and the *Interim Final Incident Command*

Transition Plan. The EPA invites you to attend a call among tribes, states and local stakeholders to discuss the plans and ask questions on Tuesday, September 22 at 12:00 Mountain Time. We will provide you with an agenda and call-in information for that discussion in the very near future.

We would appreciate your written comments on the *Post-Gold King Release Incident: Conceptual Monitoring Plan for Surface Water, Sediments, and Biology* as soon as possible so the Agency can initiate monitoring this fall before the cold weather limits sampling activities, but no later than October 8, 2015. At the end of the comment period, EPA will provide written feedback on how input was considered in the final action. We look forward to your input; so, please provide your written comments for consideration to GKMmonitoring@epa.gov.

Thank you,

Bill Honker

William K. Honker, P.E.

Director, Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ)

EPA Region 6

Dallas, TX

214-665-3187

<http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/index.htm>

